



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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July 5, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley *TM* *JN*
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – MACRO HOMES,
INCORPORATED - MACRO HOMES II GROUP HOME**

We have completed a review of Macro Homes II Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Macro Homes, Incorporated. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Macro Homes II Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for girls ages 6-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Macro Homes II Group Home was providing services for six DCFS children.

Macro Homes II Group Home is located in the Fifth District.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection, and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program

services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. The Agency needs to address a few deficient areas.

Macro Homes II Group Home needs to properly secure the carport support posts and replace or remove the patio hammock. Additionally, the Group Home needs to clean the kitchen floor. The Group Home also needs to include input from all members of the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Mike Pirolo at (626) 293-1110.

JTM:MP:CC:dl

Attachments

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Kathleen F. Kerrigan, Administrator, Macro Homes, Incorporated
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Macro Homes, Incorporated
Macro Homes II Group Home
1165 Ivesbrook Street
Lancaster, California 93534
Phone: (661) (661) 948-9276
License Number: 191221473
Rate Classification Level: 9**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Macro Homes II is located in a residential community. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. However, the wooden support posts on the carport are not straight and are not properly secured. A cloth hammock on the patio is weathered and torn.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat. However, the kitchen floor on the side of the refrigerator is dirty. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

1. Macro Homes management:

- a. Repair and properly secure the carport support posts.**
- b. Replace or remove the hammock.**
- c. Clean the kitchen floor.**

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are developed and implemented with input from the child. However, one NSP does not include input from all members of the treatment team. The NSPs are current, comprehensive, and include short and long term goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendations

- 2. Macro Homes management include input from the placement worker in the development and implementation of the NSPs.**

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews****Sample size: Two****Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents****Comments:**

Children have current court authorizations for psychotropic medication. Documentation confirms that children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication. Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. Personal Rights**Method of assessment – Interviews with children****Sample size: Two****Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff

supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are able to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail, and have private visitors. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

MACRO HOMES

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VICTORIA HANCOCK
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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SECRETARY

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TREASURER

Corrective Action Plan
Macro Homes 2 Group Home
1165 Ivesbrook Street
Lancaster, California 93534
2007

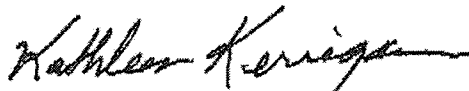
Attention: Candace Rhue, Group Home Audit Supervisor
Department of Auditor-Controller
Fax: (213) 346-9020

I. Facility and Environment CAP

1. Macro Homes Management Implementation:
 - a. Administrator hired a contractor to repair and secure the carport support posts.
 - b. Hammack was removed from property.
 - c. Facility Manager cleaned kitchen floor between refrigerator and cabinets.
2. Macro Homes Plan to ensure the deficiencies will not happen again:
 - a. Facility Manager will make a weekly list of facility chores and prioritize the Chores that are to be completed in that order by staff or given as extra paid chores by residence.
 - b. Facility Manager will check chores that have been done, survey premises, make a new list as above.
 - c. Administrator will do a quality assurance monitoring of the premises in the 1st week of each month.

II. Program Services CAP

1. Macro Homes Social Worker will document response or input from the placement worker under Collaborations in the development and update of the Quarterly and NSP.
2. Macro Homes Administrator will keep a master calendar of report dates on each individual resident and assure that NSP are being collaborated with placement workers by phone, email, or during planned visits by staff.



Submitted by: Kathleen Kerrigan MA
Administrator of Macro Homes